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Lynne Pierson Doti Selected to Hold New Professorship in Economics

She is the inaugural holder of the David and Sandra Stone Professorship in Economics, the result of a gift from a Newport Beach couple.

The donors special wedding led to the endowment gift.

ORANGE, Calif, Feb. 15, 2005 Chapman University professor Lynne Pierson Doti, Ph.D, has been named to be the inaugural holder of the newly established David and Sandra Stone Professorship in Economics, it was announced today by Doug Tuggle, dean of Chapmans Argyros School of Business and Economics.

The endowed professorship provides funding to support research opportunities for Pierson Doti and her students, such as trips to academic conferences. It also lends prestige to the Argyros School of Business and Economics.

The author of three books and countless articles, Pierson Doti specializes in researching financial systems and institutions. Her current research is focused on financing sources for real estate development.

In addition to her research, Pierson Doti, who has been a Chapman professor for more than 30 years, is devoted to her classroom responsibilities. I can't imagine a more satisfying thing to do, she says. I love the contact with students as they experience the final steps into their first professional jobs.

I'm confident that Lynne Pierson Doti will be exemplary as the inaugural holder of the professorship. She is an outstanding educator, Tuggle said.

An Orange County resident for most of her life, Pierson Doti holds bachelors and masters degrees from Cal State Fullerton and a Ph.D. from University of California Riverside.

-- A Wedding Story

Donors David and Sandra Stone, of Newport Beach, are newlyweds who married in July 2004. Though there is a family connection to Chapman, the story leading to the gift is an unlikely one.

David has been involved with Chapman for more than 20 years, having attended various economic conferences and programs. His daughter, Susan Stone Bohan, graduated from Chapman in 1981.

At the urging of their good friends, Michael and Lynette Hayde, the Stones planned a formal wedding ceremony and traveled to Spain where former U.S. Ambassador George Argyros

presided. The Stones report that George and his wife, Julia, made their wedding so memorable that they wanted to do something meaningful for them.

So Michael Hayde, who is Davids business partner of 35 years, suggested that they honor George through a gift of some sort to Chapman. Hayde arranged a meeting for the Stones with Chapman President Jim Doti who shared that George favors giving endowed professorships.

I knew instantly that this would be a great fit, says David Stone, who is chairman of Western National Group.

We walked away with such a feeling of pride, Sandra says. We're proud to be associated with Chapman and that we can contribute in a way that is so meaningful for everyone involved.